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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

Inventor : Picheng Huang

Appln. No. : 10/823,153

Filed : April 13, 2004

Title : MAGNETIC DEVICES HAVING
MAGNETIC FEATURES WITH CMP
STOP LAYERS

Docket No. : 169.12-0622

Group Art Unit: 2627

Examiner: Renner, Craig A.

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SENT VIA EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail No.: EV884207026US

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 28, 2006. In the Office Action, claims 1-6 were withdrawn from further consideration in response to the reply filed on September 18, 2006, and the remaining claims under group II (claims 7-40) were subject to the following restriction requirement:

Species A: Drawn to Figs. 2A-2G for claims 13-21 and 30-36.

Sub-species AA: Drawn to the determination of when the stop layer is reached is further based in part as a function of a motor current of a chemical-mechanical polishing apparatus for claims 13, 19, 30, and 34.

Sub-species AB: Drawn to the determination of when the stop layer is reached is further based in part as a function of a change in surface optical reflectivity for claims 14, 20, 31, and 35.

Sub-species AC: Drawn to the determination of when the stop layer is reached is further based in part as a function of an induced eddy current for claims 15, 21, 32, and 36.

Species B: Drawn to Figs. 3A-3D for claims 13-15, 22-26, 30-32, and 37-40.

Sub-species BA: Drawn to the determination of when the stop layer is reached is further based in part as a function of a motor current of a chemical-mechanical polishing apparatus for claims 13, 24, 30, and 38.

Sub-species BB: Drawn to the determination of when the stop layer is reached is further based in part as a function of a change in surface optical reflectivity for claims 14, 25, 31, and 39.

Sub-species BC: Drawn to the determination of when the stop layer is reached is further based in part as a function of an induced eddy current for claims 15, 26, 32, and 40.

Pursuant to the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicant elects species A, sub-species AC. The claims that read on species A, sub-species AC include claims 7-12, 15-18, 21, 27-29, 32, 33, and 36, where claims 7 and 27 are generic claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0982.

Respectfully submitted,

KINNEY & LANGE, P.A.

Date: 12/19/06

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